

**Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at  
TEMORA OFFICE on 18 December 2020**

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The meeting commenced at 10.01am

**PRESENT**

Cr D Palmer, Cr G Armstrong, Cr B Callow, Cr D McCann, Cr K Morris, Cr M Stadtmiller,  
Cr G Sinclair.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr A Drenovski (General Manager), Mr G Veneris (Production and Services Manager), Mr  
T Goodyer (Operations Manager), Ms M Curran (Corporate Services Manager) Miss S  
Jung (Engineering Manager), Ms Breah Coleman (Acting Executive Assistant).

**1. LEAVE OF ABSENCE/APOLOGIES**

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

**20/118 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sinclair and Armstrong that Cr L McGlynn  
be granted a leave of absence.**

**2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

I would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri people who are the Traditional Custodians of the  
Land. I would also like to pay respect to their people both past and present and extend  
that respect to other Aboriginal Australians who are present.

**3. PRESENTATIONS**

Nil

**4. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Nil

**5. DECLARATION OF NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Nil

**6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 22 OCTOBER 2020**

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

**20/119 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Armstrong and Sinclair that the minutes of  
the meetings held on the 22 October 2020, having been circulated and read by  
members be confirmed.**

**7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

Nil

**8. CORRESPONDENCE**

Nil

**9. MATTERS OF URGENCY**

Nil

**10. NOTICES OF MOTION / RESCISSION MOTIONS**

Nil

**11. CHAIRPERSON'S MINUTE**

I would like to start by thanking you all for being here today, our last Board meeting of 2020.

2020 has been a tumultuous year, January saw Goldenfields Water enact emergency water restrictions following unprecedented demand on our system and faults at our Oura Pump Station. This was followed by the devastating loss of a valued and long serving employee, Jamie Gordon. His loss is still felt today and I encourage you to keep his family in your thoughts, and all of you and our staff who have lost family and friends this year, as we approach the festive season.

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to challenge and test us as the Goldenfields Water Board and the impacts on staff and our customers. We navigated our way through unprecedented times, learning new technologies and ways of getting the job done to ensure Goldenfields Water operated as close to 'normal operations' as possible noting the ever changing restrictions.

The customer survey demonstrated our commitment to the successful operation of Goldenfields Water in delivering quality water, commendable customer service and the delivery of services to the wider community. These results have shown the dedication and professionalism of our organisation, and one that should be celebrated by all.

There have been many achievements throughout the year, and although I won't detail each one, I am comforted to know that Goldenfields Water is in safe hands led by us as the Board, and importantly our adaptable, professional and dedicated staff who strive to make a difference to the community.

Despite of all this, we have reached the end of 2020, ready to face a new year, new capital works program and a refreshed outlook that 2021 will bring after some much needed rest and relaxation with those most important to us.

I would like to extend my thanks to each of you for your commitment and leadership through a challenging year. I hope you and your families have an enjoyable Christmas and wish you all the best for 2021.

**12. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – CONFIDENTIAL SESSION – 10.06am**

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, in the opinion of the General Manager the following business is of a kind as referred to in section 10A(2) of the Act and should be dealt with in part of the meeting closed to the media and the public.

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

**20/120 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Armstrong and McCann that Council move into CONFIDENTIAL SESSION.

**13. MATTERS TO BE SUBMITTED TO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION**

**13.1. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY PRODUCTION AND SERVICES MANAGER**

**13.1.1. SUPPLY OF LIQUID ALUM**

*This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:*

- d) *Commercial information of a confidential matter that would, if disclosed:
  - (i) *prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it,**

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

**20/121 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs McCann and Armstrong that the Board accept the offer of Nowra Chemicals Pty Ltd for the supply of Liquid Alum for a fixed period of 12 months commencing December 2020, in accordance with the REROC Tendering evaluation process.

**13.2. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY ENGINEERING MANAGER**

**13.2.1. TENDER RECOMMENDATION – OLD JUGIONG WATER TREATMENT**

**PLANT DEMOLITION – CONTRACT 07/2020**

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- e) *Commercial information of a confidential matter that would, if disclosed:
  - (i) *Prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or**

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

**20/122 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Sinclair and Morris that the Board:

1. **Accept the offer for Contract 07/2020 for the Old Jugiong Water Treatment Plant Demolition to AGH DEMOLITION & ASBESTOS REMOVAL PTY LTD for the tendered amount of \$ \$646,151.00 (incl. GST).**

**2. Approve the revised budget estimate as per financial impact statement.**

**13.2.2. ROSEHILL TO HARDEN ADDITIONAL 2.7KM PIPELINE REPLACEMENT**

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- d) Commercial information of a confidential matter that would, if disclosed:
  - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it,**

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

**20/123 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Stadtmiller and Armstrong that the Board;

- a. review the information provided within this report**
- b. proceed with the compulsory acquisition process for a 6m wide easement through the property 237 Cullinga Mines Road, Beggan Beggan, NSW 2587**
- c. approve the General Manager or his/her delegate to submit an acquisition notice to the relevant government department and/or Minister**
- d. approve the General Manager or his/her delegate to issue the Proposed Acquisition Notice (PAN) stating Goldenfields Water's intention to acquire the land within 90 days**
- e. approve the General Manager or his/her delegate to engage TCM Civil Pty Ltd to complete the provisional item for the lump sum cost of \$979,259.00 ex GST for works within the private property.**

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

**20/124 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs McCann and Sinclair that there being no further confidential items that Council revert back to Open Session and that the resolutions made in confidential session be made public.

**14. MATTERS TO BE SUBMITTED TO OPEN COUNCIL – 10.40am**

**14.1. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER**

**14.1.1. COUNCIL INVESTMENTS**

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

**20/125 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs McCann and Sinclair that the report detailing Council Investments as at 30th November 2020 be received and noted.

**Report prepared by Corporate Services Manager**

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**COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That the report detailing Council Investments as at 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020 be received and noted.

**ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

09 Financially Sustainable

**BACKGROUND**

A report on Council's Investments is required to be presented for Council's consideration in accordance with Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

**REPORT**

Council's investment portfolio decreased by \$1,750,000 from \$54,750,000 as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 to \$53,000,000 as at 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020. The reduction is primarily due to the normal payment of operating and project expenditure during the quarter.

**Investment Portfolio**

Type	Rating	SP Rating	Issuer	Frequency	Purchase	Maturity	Days	Rate	Benchmark*	Principal
TD	BBB+	A2	Rural Bank	Annual	6/12/2017	7/12/2020	1097	2.95	0.40	\$3,000,000
TD	A-	A1	Macquarie Bank	At Maturity	17/03/2020	16/12/2020	274	1.60	0.40	\$4,000,000
TD	BBB+	A2	Rural Bank	Annual	9/01/2018	11/01/2021	1098	3.10	0.40	\$3,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	National Australia Bank	At Maturity	14/02/2020	16/02/2021	368	1.50	0.40	\$3,000,000
TD	NR	NR	Police Credit Union SA	Annual	21/03/2018	22/03/2021	1097	3.15	0.40	\$2,000,000
TD	BBB+	A2	AMP Bank	At Maturity	19/03/2020	25/03/2021	371	1.80	0.40	\$2,000,000
TD	NR	NR	Australian Military Bank	Annual	29/03/2018	29/03/2021	1096	3.20	0.40	\$1,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	Westpac	Quarterly	24/04/2018	27/04/2021	1099	3.13	0.40	\$3,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	National Australia Bank	At Maturity	9/06/2020	9/06/2021	365	0.98	0.40	\$2,000,000
TD	BBB	A2	P&N Bank	Annual	27/06/2018	28/06/2021	1097	3.15	0.40	\$3,000,000
TD	BBB+	A2	BOQ	Annual	12/07/2017	12/07/2021	1461	3.45	0.40	\$2,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	National Australia Bank	Annual	26/11/2020	19/08/2021	266	0.48	0.40	\$2,000,000
TD	BBB+	A2	BOQ	Annual	29/10/2018	29/10/2021	1096	3.00	0.40	\$3,000,000
TD	BBB+	A2	AMP Bank	Annual	15/05/2020	17/11/2021	551	1.55	0.40	\$3,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	National Australia Bank	Annual	26/11/2020	9/12/2021	378	0.48	0.40	\$2,000,000
TD	BBB+	A2	BOQ	Annual	12/07/2018	12/07/2022	1461	3.50	0.40	\$1,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	Westpac	Quarterly	13/07/2020	13/07/2022	730	0.96	0.40	\$3,000,000
TD	BBB+	A2	BOQ	Annual	23/06/2020	20/07/2022	757	1.23	0.40	\$1,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	Westpac	Quarterly	5/08/2020	7/09/2022	763	0.90	0.40	\$3,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	NT Treasury	Annual	10/09/2020	15/12/2023	1191	1.00	0.40	\$2,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	NT Treasury	Annual	28/09/2020	15/12/2024	1539	1.10	0.40	\$1,000,000
CASH	A-	A1	Macquarie Bank	Monthly				0.45	0.10	\$3,000,000
CASH	AA-	A1+	CBA	Monthly				0.10	0.10	\$1,000,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>										<b>\$53,000,000</b>

\*Benchmarks

On Call - RBA Cash

Floating Rate Deposit - 3m BBSW

Term Deposit - BBSW

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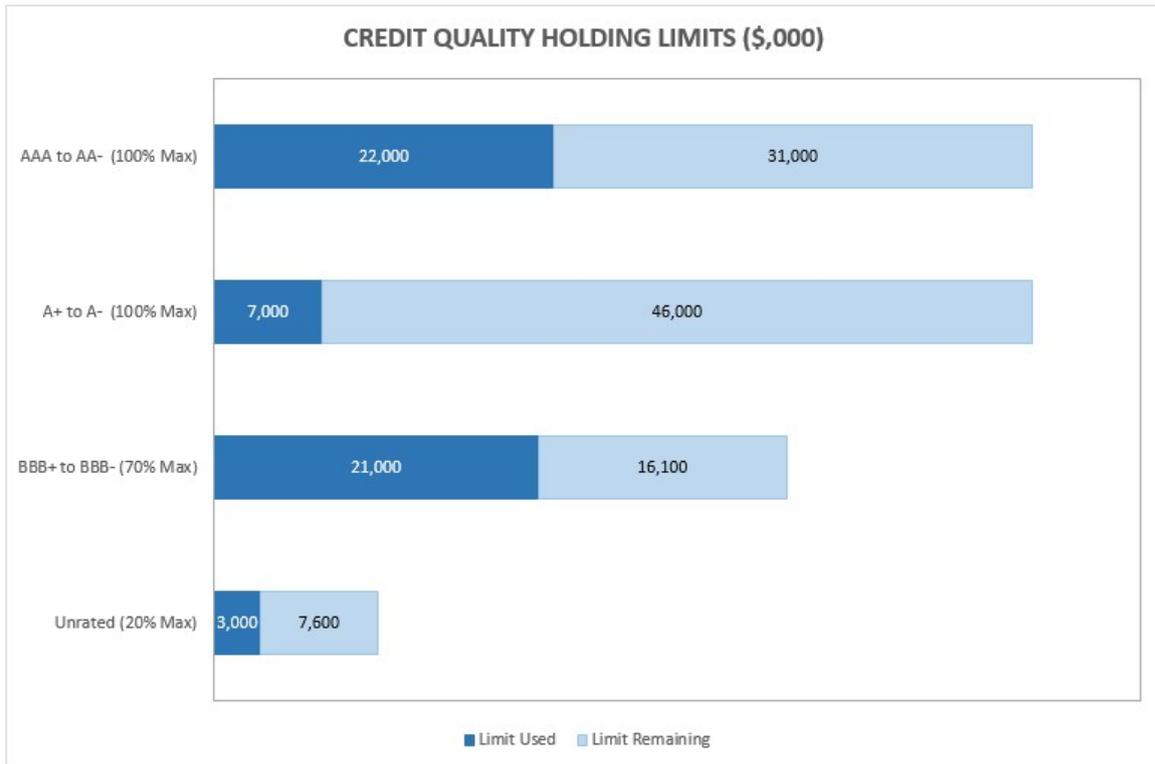
**Performance**

Goldenfields Water County Council's investment portfolio outperformed the relevant BBSW Index benchmark by 405%. The average weighted yield for November was 1.89%, over an average weighted term of 285 days, with a benchmark of 0.37%. This strong performance continues to be driven by those deposits still yielding above 3% p.a.

<b>Total Cost</b> <b>53,000,000</b>	<b>Total Accrued Interest</b> <b>493,202</b>	<b>Weighted Average Term</b> <b>285 Days</b>
<b>Total Value</b> <b>53,000,000</b>	<b>Monthly Interest Received</b> <b>97,550</b>	<b>Weighted Average Yield</b> <b>1.89%</b>

**Credit Quality Compliance**

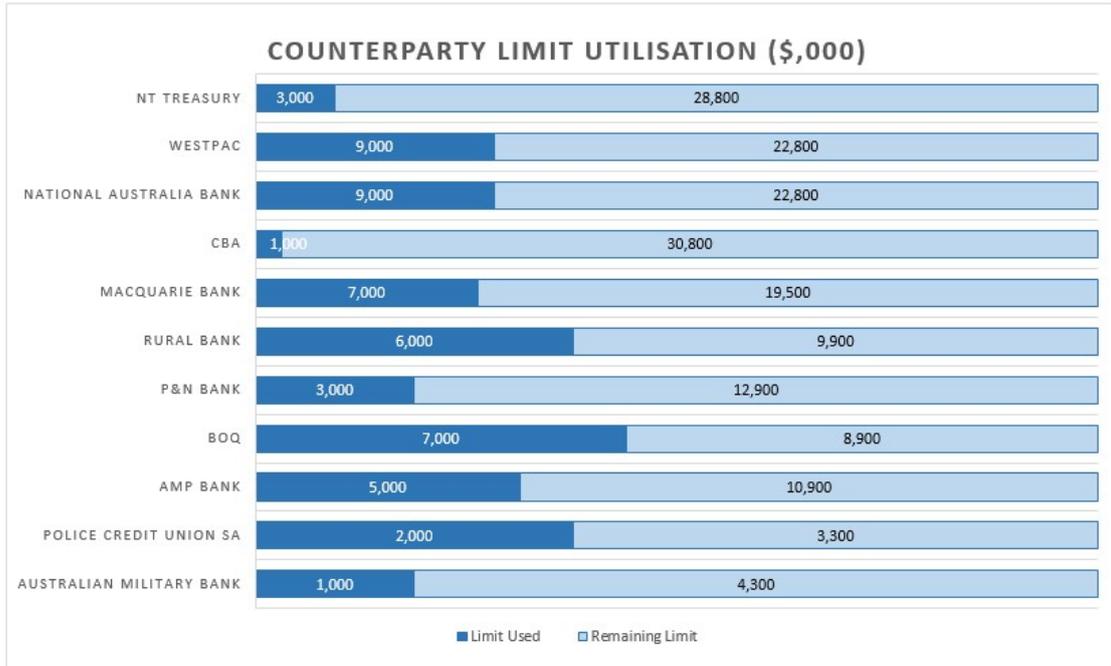
Council's investment portfolio was compliant with policy in terms of S&P long term rating credit quality limits, as displayed below.



**Counter Party Compliance**

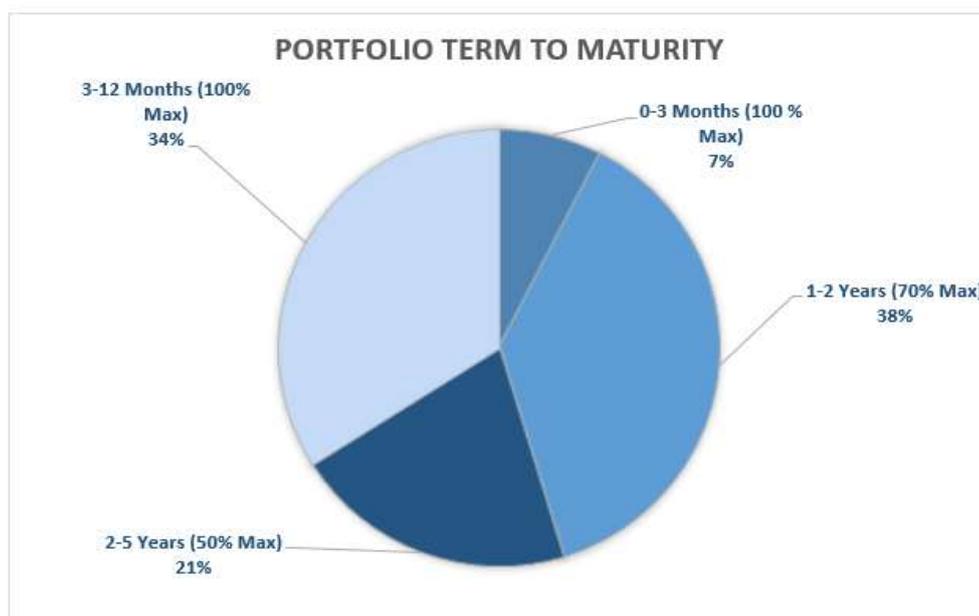
As at the end of November, Council was compliant with policy in terms of individual financial institution capacity limits. It is worth noting that capacity limits are affected by changes in the on call account balance compared to the total portfolio balance.

Overall, the portfolio is diversified across a variety of credit ratings, including some exposure to unrated ADIs.



**Term to Maturity**

Council’s investment portfolio maturities shown graphically below were also compliant with policy requirements.



## APPLICATION OF INVESTMENT FUNDS

The table below details the allocation of cash balances in terms of restricted funds, noting restrictions are all internal rather than external.

<b>Restricted Funds:</b>	
Plant & Vehicle Replacement	1,269,216
Infrastructure Replacement	34,009,119
Employee Leave Entitlement	2,128,849
Sales Fluctuation Reserve	2,000,000
Property Reserve	391,890
<b>Unrestricted Funds:</b>	13,200,926
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>53,000,000</b>

## FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Council's investment portfolio decreased by \$1,750,000 from \$54,750,000 as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 to \$53,000,000 as at 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

## DECLARATION

I hereby certify that investments listed in the report have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and Council's Investment Policy PP004.

Signed 

Michele Curran  
Responsible Accounting Officer

**ATTACHMENTS:** Nil.

**TABLED ITEMS:** Nil.

### 14.1.2. PROGRESS REPORT – CAPITAL WORKS EXPENDITURE

#### BOARD RESOLUTION

**20/126 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Armstrong and Callow that the report detailing Council's Capital Works Program as at 30 November 2020 be received and noted.

**Report prepared by Corporate Services Manager**

#### COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the report detailing Council's Capital Works Program as at 30 November 2020 be received and noted.

## **ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

09 Financially Sustainable

### **BACKGROUND**

Capital Works represents a significant part of Councils activities and expenditure. This report details progress year to date on programmed and emergent capital works.

### **REPORT**

This report is presented for information on the Capital Works Program year to date progress as at 30 November 2020.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Capital Works Progress Report as at 30 November 2020

**TABLED ITEMS:** Nil.

### **14.1.3. POLICY REVIEW**

#### **BOARD RESOLUTION**

**20/127 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Armstrong and Sinclair**

- 1. That the Board rescinds CP017 Gathering Information Policy;**
- 2. That the Board rescinds CP030 Public Interest Disclosure Policy;**
- 3. That the Board adopts PP024 Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy.**

**Report prepared by Corporate Services Manager**

#### **COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the Board rescinds CP017 Gathering Information Policy;
2. That the Board rescinds CP030 Public Interest Disclosure Policy;
3. That the Board adopts PP024 Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy.

## **ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

07 Efficient Operations

### **BACKGROUND**

A full review of Council policies is currently underway to determine currency and relevance. The policies included in this report have been reviewed by management and suggested actions included for the consideration of the board.

## REPORT

- **CP017 Gathering Information Policy:** this policy was adopted in 2005 and was due for review in 2008. The policy was adopted under Council's old numbering system and has not been revised since. It has been determined that this policy is no longer relevant. Information management is covered by PP027 Records and Information Management Policy as well as the requirements defined in GA39 General Retention and Disposal Authority: Local Government Records.
- **CP030 Public Interest Disclosure Policy:** this policy was adopted in 2011 and was due for review in 2013. The policy was adopted under Council's old numbering system. The policy has since been replaced by PP021 Internal Reporting Policy, but was not rescinded at the time of PP021 being adopted by Council. It is recommended that CP030 be rescinded now to ensure only one policy is in place.
- **PP024 Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy:** adopted 2016 and was due for review in 2019. The policy has been renamed to include Corruption in the title and content has been significantly updated. Recommended policy inclusions are from the sample fraud control policy in the NSW Audit Office's "Fraud Control Improvement Kit". This policy was endorsed by the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee at their 26 November 2020 meeting.

## FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

**ATTACHMENTS:** PP024 Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy.

**TABLED ITEMS:** CP017 Gathering Information Policy; CP030 Public Interest Disclosure Policy.

### 14.1.4. AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

#### BOARD RESOLUTION

**20/128 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Armstrong and Sinclair that the Board receives and notes the minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 26 November 2020.

Report prepared by Corporate Services Manager

#### COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Board receives and notes the minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 26 November 2020.

#### ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

09 Financially Sustainable

## **BACKGROUND**

Goldenfields Water County Council Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee is an advisory committee in accordance with section 355 of the Local Government Act 1993, and the Local Government Regulations 2012. The Committee was established by Council Res 17/008 on 23 February 2017. In accordance with the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Charter, the Committee will report regularly to Council.

## **REPORT**

The Goldenfields Water County Council Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee met on 26 November 2020. Minutes of the meeting are attached for the information of the Board.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Minutes of ARIC

## **14.2. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY PRODUCTION AND SERVICES MANAGER**

### **14.2.1. WATER PRODUCTION REPORT**

#### **BOARD RESOLUTION**

**20/129 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Sinclair and Armstrong that the Water Production Report be received and noted.

**Report prepared by Production and Services Manager**

#### **COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That the Water Production Report be received and noted.

#### **ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

03 Strategic Water Management

## **BACKGROUND**

Goldenfields Water provides the essential water requirements of about 40,000 people spread over an area in excess of 20,000 square kilometres between the Lachlan & Murrumbidgee Rivers in the South West of NSW.

Goldenfields Waters' supply system consists of five separate water schemes, Jugiong, Oura, Mt Arthur, Mt Daylight and Hylands Bridge. Goldenfields Water carries out water supply functions within the Local Government areas of Bland, Coolamon, Cootamundra, Hilltops, Junee, Temora, and parts of Narrandera and Wagga Wagga.

Hilltops Shire Council, Cootamundra Gundagai Shire Council and Riverina Water County Council are retailers, who purchase bulk water from Goldenfields and supply the water to retail customers in their respective local government areas.

**REPORT**

**Jugiong drinking Water Scheme**

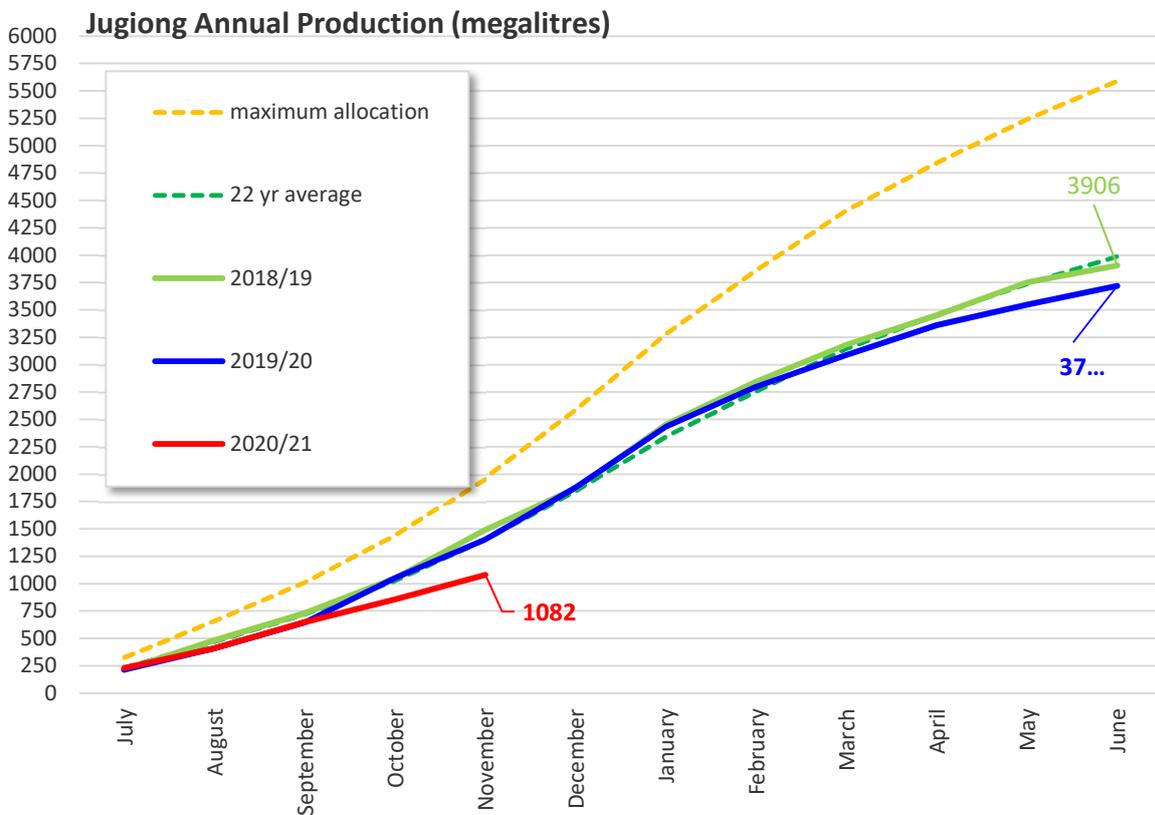
The Jugiong drinking water scheme sources water from the Murrumbidgee River and has an extraction licence entitlement of 5590ML per annum. Water from the Murrumbidgee River is treated through a 40ML/day, conventional Water Treatment Plant that consists of: Coagulation, Flocculation, Clarification, Filtration, Disinfection and Fluoridation.

The Jugiong Scheme has 14 sets of reservoirs and 8 pumping stations. The Jugiong Scheme supplies bulk water to the Hilltops and Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Councils for supply to the townships of Cootamundra, Harden and Young with a population of approximately 6800, 2200 and 8000 respectively.

Goldenfields Water also provides additional retail supply to approximately 600 customers in the villages of Stockinbingal, Wallendbeen and Springdale.

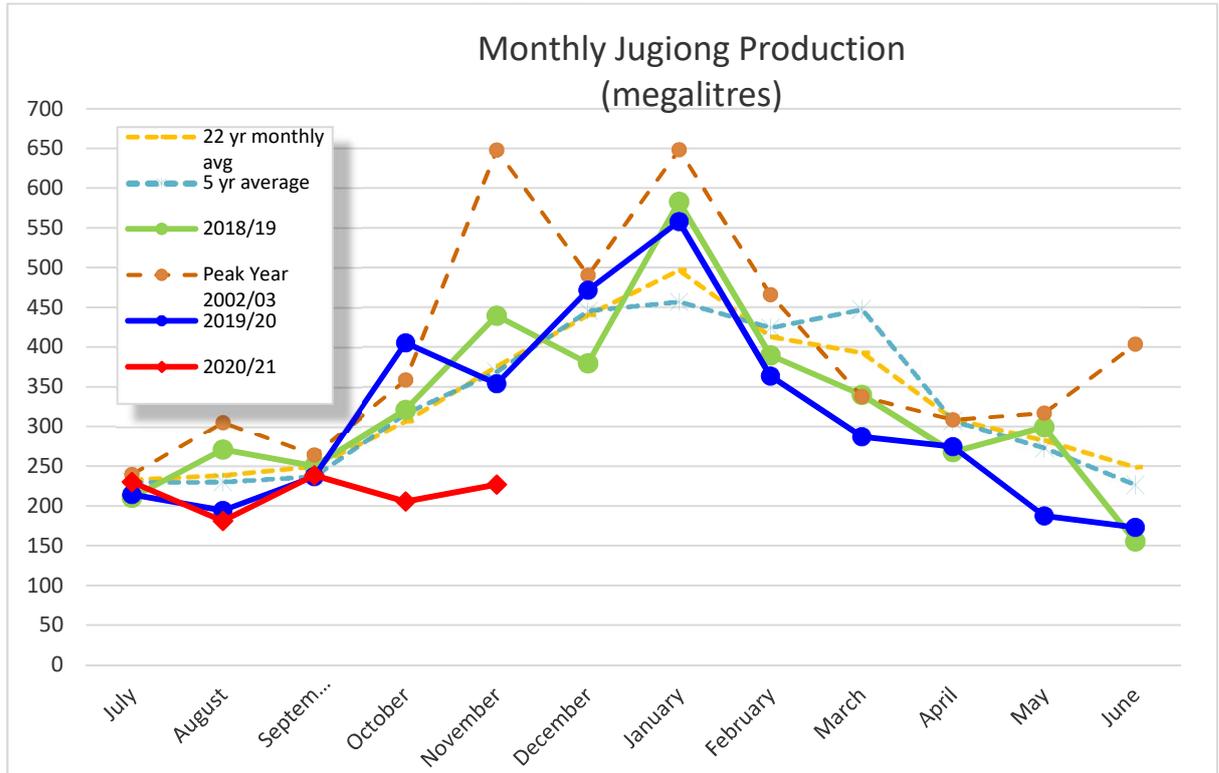
Jugiong annual water production is trending in a similar fashion to previous years.

For the first 5 months of the 2020/21 financial year, 1082ML of water has been extracted from the Murrumbidgee River and processed at the Jugiong Water Treatment plant. Totals for each month are as follows: July 230.19ML, August 180.95ML, September 238.32ML, October 205.48ML and November 180.95 ML. As compared to the same period in 2019/20 where 1405ML was produced, This is a 23% reduction compared to the same period in 2019/20, as indicated by the graph below.



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As mentioned above, Jugiong monthly water production has decreased by 23% especially over the past 2 months as indicated below, this is due mainly to high rainfall and cooler than usual weather during spring.

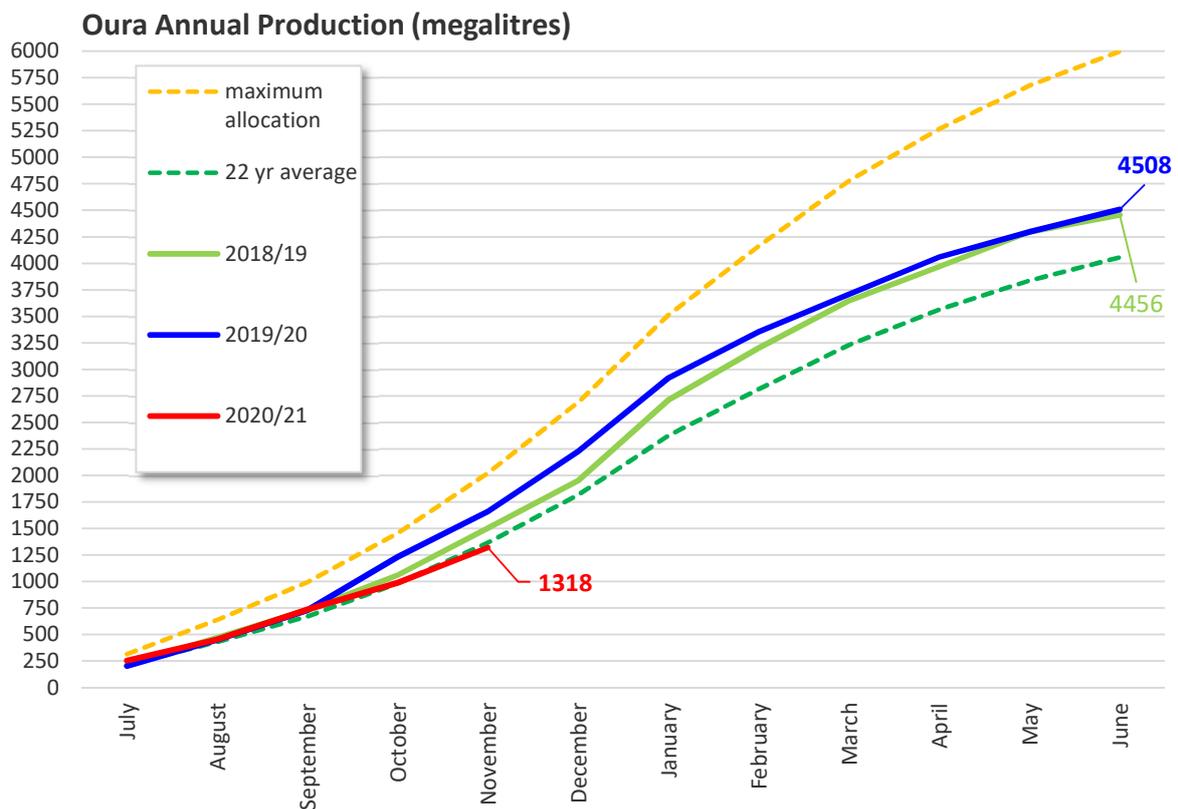


### Oura Drinking Water Scheme

The water source at Oura is the Murrumbidgee inland alluvial aquifer, this water is extracted from 4 bores namely: Bores 2, 3, 4 and 6. The raw water then goes through a treatment process at the Oura Water Treatment Plant that includes Aeration, Disinfection and Fluoridation.

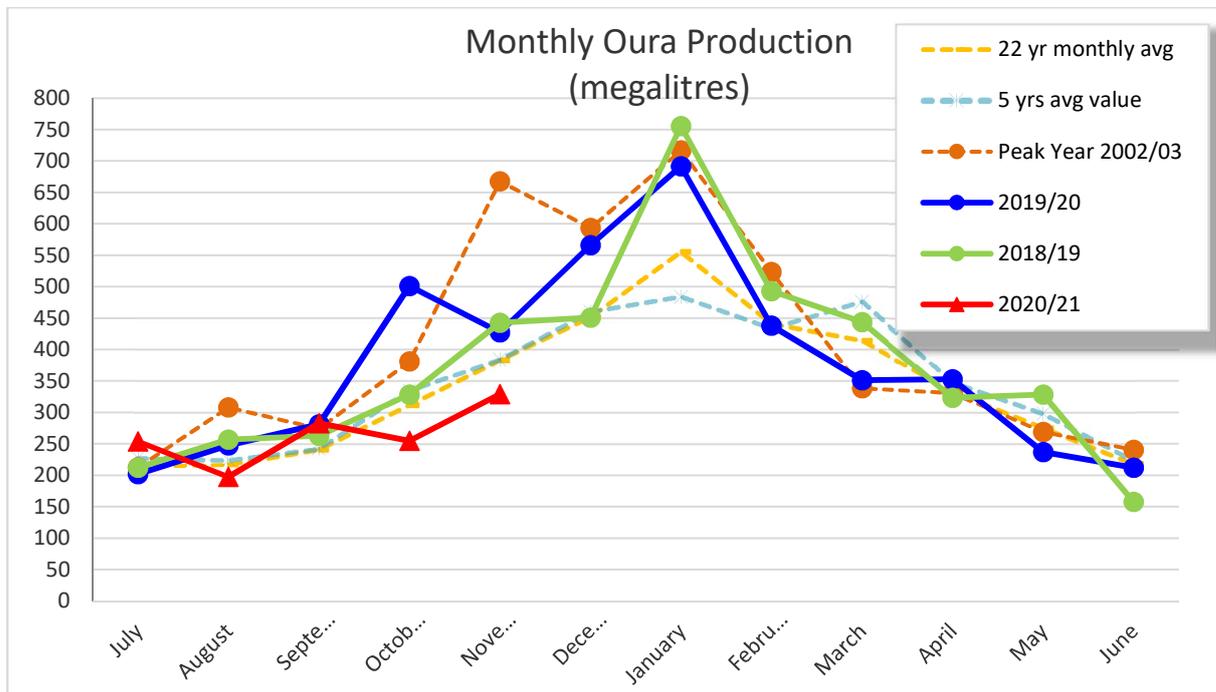
The Oura scheme has 33 sets of reservoirs and 19 pumping stations, produces drinking water for approximately 14,600 people in the Bland, Coolamon, Junee, Narrandera and Temora Shires. The Oura scheme can also supply water to the Northern side of the rural area of Wagga Wagga City when required.

For the first 5 months of the 2020/21 financial year, 1318ML of water has been extracted from the Oura Borefield and processed at the Oura Water Treatment Plant. Totals for each month are as follows: July 253.87 ML, August 197.58 ML, September 282.91 ML, October 254.89ML and November 329.11ML. This is a 20.53% reduction as compared to the same period in 2019/20 where 1658.86ML was produced. This is depicted in the graph below, although a reduction still trending in a similar fashion to historical years.



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As mentioned above, Oura monthly water production has reduced by 20.53% compared to the previous period in 2019/20. This is due mainly to high rainfall and cooler than usual weather during spring.

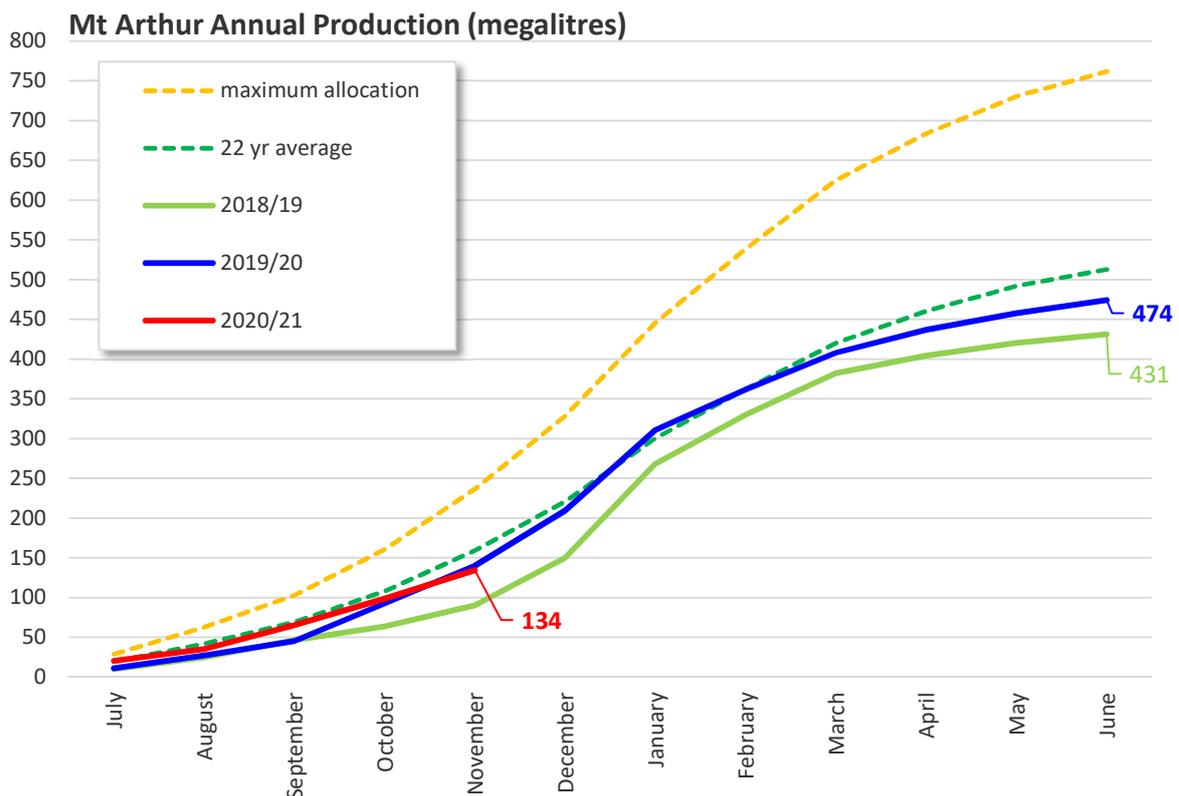


### Mount Arthur Drinking Water Scheme

The Mount Arthur Water Source is from the Lachlan Fold belt Aquifer System. The water is extracted via two bores, bores 1 and 2 located in the Wagga Wagga City Council area South of Matong. The water is disinfected before distribution through 9 sets of reservoirs supplying approximately 2400 people with water in the Coolamon shire.

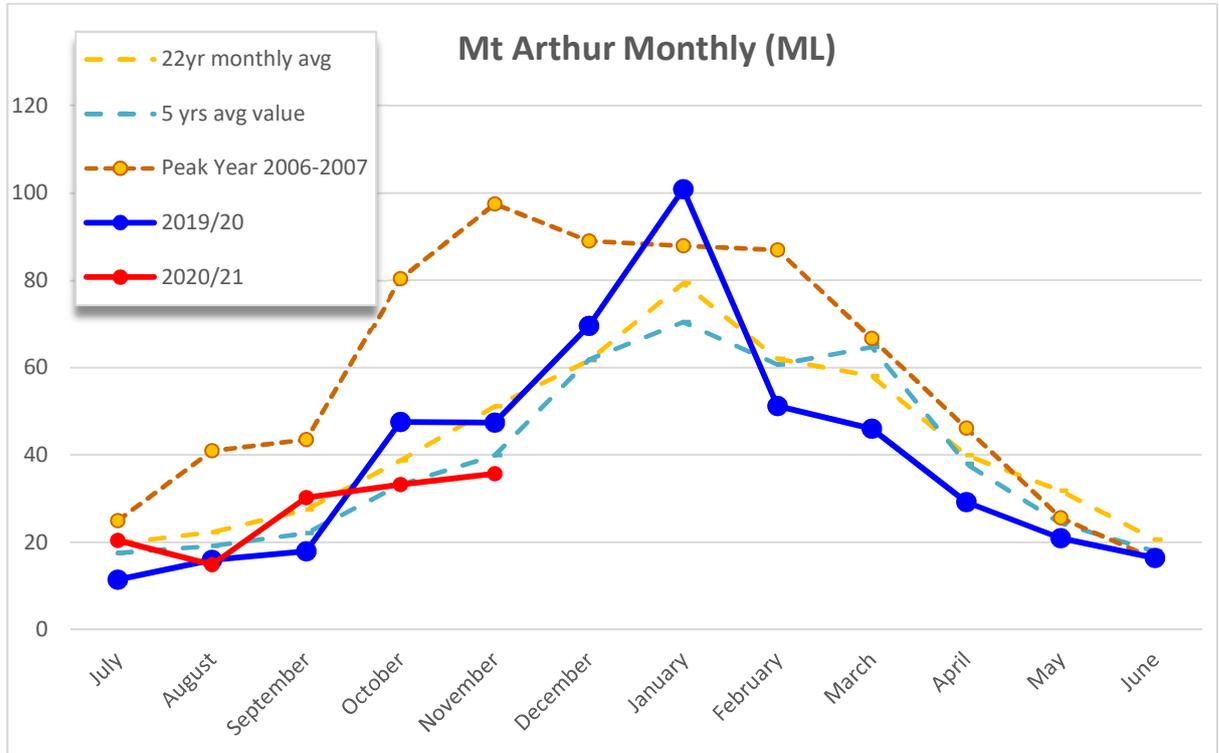
It should be noted that a new Bore 1 is currently being developed to replace the existing Bore site and associated assets. Upon completion, testing and commissioning of the new Bore 1, the old bore will be decommissioned and removed. Water quality and hydraulic capacity requirements appear to be positive at this stage; however actual confirmation of this cannot be known until full commissioning of the bore occurs.

For the first 5 months of the 2020/21 financial year, 134ML of water has been extracted from the Mt Arthur Borefield. Totals for each month are as follows: July 20.44 ML, August 14.87 ML, September 30.18 ML, October 33.23ML and November 35.67ML. This is a reduction compared to the first 5 months for 2019/20 where 140.22ML was produced. As can be seen in the graph below trending in a similar fashion to historical years.



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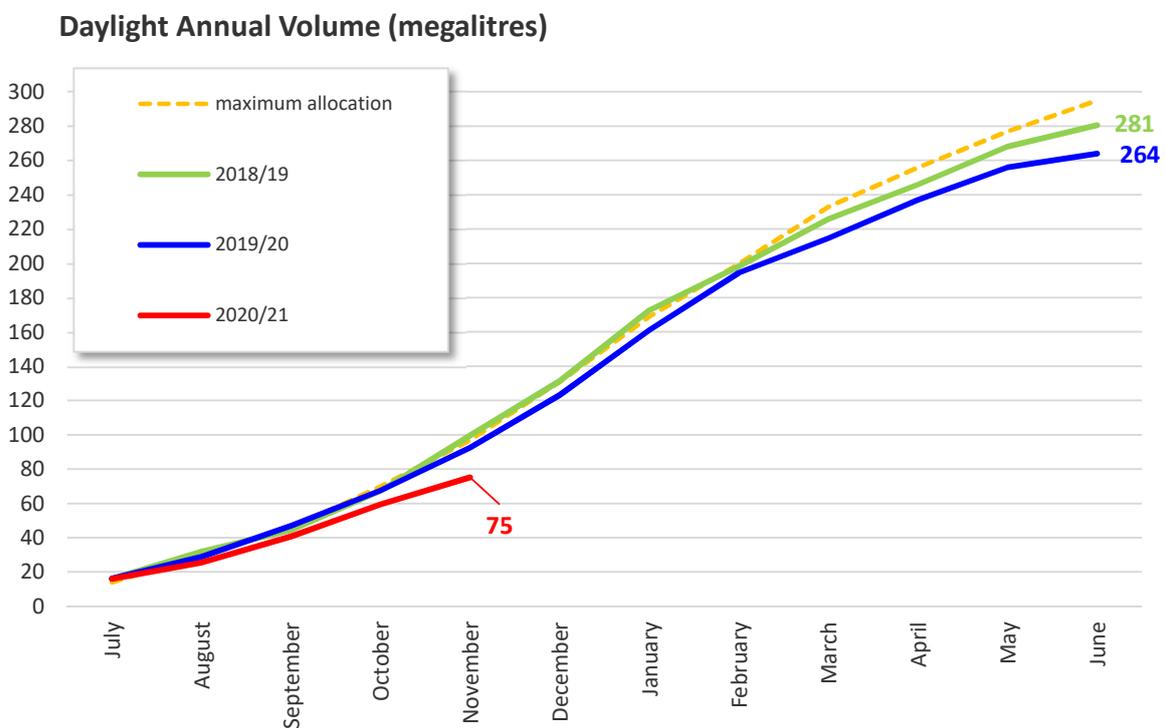
Mt Arthur monthly water production for the first 5 months is a bit varied compared to the same period in 2019/20. This is due mainly to high rainfall and cooler than usual weather during spring.



### Mount Daylight Drinking Water Scheme

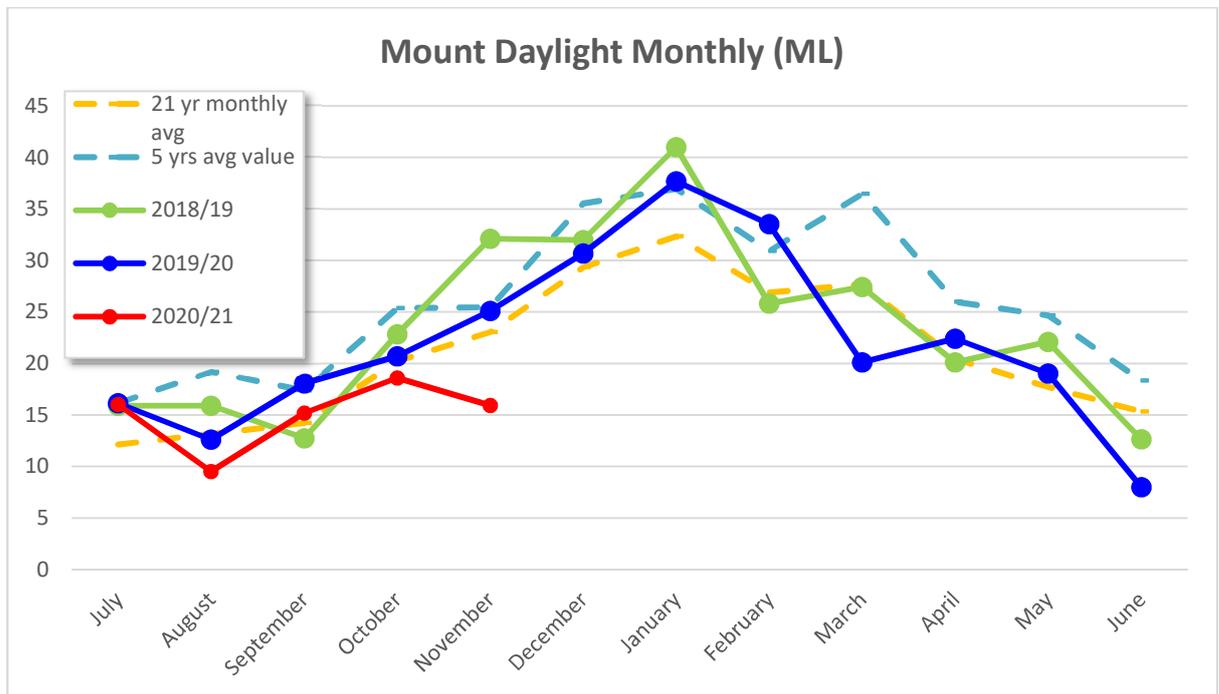
The Mount Daylight water source is from the Lower Lachlan alluvium aquifer. The Mount Daylight bores are jointly operated with Carathool Shire Council. Carathool Shire Council is responsible for bore management. There are 7 sets of reservoirs in the Mt Daylight scheme. Mt Daylight supplies water to approximately 125 people in the villages of Naradhan, Weethalle and Tallimba which is located within the Bland Shire.

For the first 5 months of the 2020/21 financial year, 75ML of water has been extracted from the Mt Daylight Borefield. Totals for each month are as follows: July 16.01 ML, August 9.52 ML, September 15.2 ML, October 18.6ML and November 15.94ML. This is a lower volume compared to the same period for 2019/20 where 92.59ML was produced. As can be seen in the graph below trending in a similar fashion to historical years.



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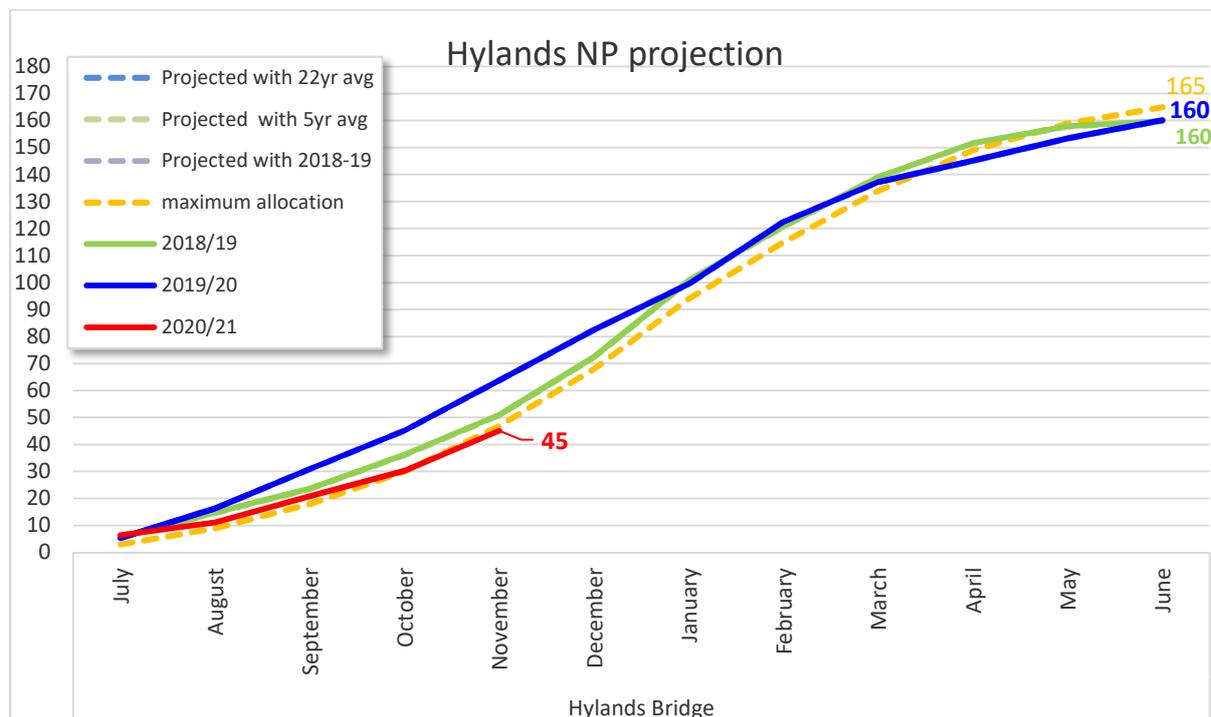
As mentioned above, the Mt Daylight monthly water production is trending at a reduced rate than previous year's period. This is simply due to higher than average rainfall and colder weather.



### Hylands Bridge - Non Potable

Hylands Bridge supplies Non Potable water to Barellan and Binya. The water is sourced through the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area where Goldenfields Water holds 165ML shareholding for water entitlement.

For the first 5 months of the 2020/21 financial year, 45ML of water has been extracted from the Hylands Bridge Raw Water scheme. Totals for each month are as follows: July 6.37ML, August 4.71ML, September 9.65ML, October 9.46ML and November 14.82ML. This is a reduced volume compared to the first quarter for 2019/20 where 63.71ML was produced. As can be seen in the graph below trending in a similar fashion to historical years.



### FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Nil

**TABLED ITEMS:** Nil

### 14.2.2. ANNUAL DRINKING WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM REVIEW

#### BOARD RESOLUTION

**20/130 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs McCann and Morris that the Board review and accept the Drinking Water Management System Annual Review.

Report prepared by Production & Services Manager

## **COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board review and accept the Drinking Water Management System Annual Review

## **ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

01 Excellence in Service Provision

## **BACKGROUND**

Goldenfields Water developed and adopted a Drinking Water Management System (DWMS) and associated Policy in February 2018. The purpose of the DWMS Annual Report is to inform and update New South Wales Department of Health (NSW Health) of Goldenfields Water County Councils (GWCC) implementation and ongoing assessment of its Drinking Water Management System. It also demonstrates that GWCC is compliant with requirement s25 Public Health Act 2010 to develop a Quality Assurance Program (QAP) in line with the framework for Drinking Water Quality Management in the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.

## **REPORT**

The 2019/2020 DWMS Annual Report is the third annual review completed under the current adopted DWMS that has been undertaken by Goldenfields Water staff. This Annual Report has utilised the entire 2019/20 data for both the Jugiong and Oura water supply systems. This data was made available from the implementation of WaterOutlook and ClearSCADA. Data is also utilised from NSW Health's Drinking Water Database where required.

In addition to the general progression of the DWMS, Goldenfields Water (GWCC) staff engaged its internal Auditor (National Audits Group) to review the DWMS and provide recommendations for improvement.

A key finding was that more transparency of data reported and adopted by the Board should occur. A full list of audit findings can be found in Appendix D of the report attached.

Throughout the reporting period GWCC have undertaken numerous water samples for both operational and verification monitoring. These samples are tested at the GWCC laboratory and/or an external NATA accredited laboratory for operational monitoring or NSW Health's FASS lab for verification or compliance purposes. GWCC also conducted a number of onsite tests for operational purposes which are presented below.

Water samples are tested for Physical, Chemical and Microbial properties in the water.

Throughout the reporting period GWCC have conducted a total of 1296 microbial water samples to be either tested by NSW Health and/or tested 'in-house' by GWCC Water Quality staff.

The drinking water is also tested throughout the period for chemicals which may be present in the water, a total of 168 water samples were carried out during the reporting period, and all were tested by NSW Health's FASS laboratory.

GWCC also undertake pesticide sampling of the drinking water across the entire scheme. These samples are tested by a NATA accredited laboratory for the 2019/20 financial year.

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A total of 10 samples were tested for the presence of pesticides. All sample results were compliant with parameters set in the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG).

It is also a requirement for GWCC to test for Radiological characteristics in the ground water supplies every 2 years. Samples for these tests were undertaken last reporting period and therefore no samples were tested for radiological characteristics during the 2019/20 reporting period. All bores will be tested in the 2020/21 period for radiological characteristics and 2021/22 for surface water.

Another initiative undertaken by GWCC is the monitoring of chlorine within the distribution system networks across the entire drinking water scheme. These tests are conducted routinely by the distribution staff and a total of 4149 chlorine test were conducted onsite throughout the year with hardcopy and softcopy results kept on file. These tests include both Total and Free chlorine results. A running spreadsheet of results is constantly updated by office staff once data is received by the distribution staff and is now located in GWCC new database Content Manager (doc 18/1344). WaterOutlook was rolled out to the distribution staff during this reporting period to upload the results of the chlorine tests via mobile platforms. Since this implementation of WaterOutlook to staff, there has been 2111 chlorine test results uploaded into the database.

The main obligations of Goldenfields Water managing their DWMS is to ensure that no breaches of Critical Control Points (CCP's) occur or if they do occur that they are reported, reviewed and corrected as part of a continual improvement process.

The following tables provide the total number of CCP exceedances registered throughout the 2019/20 financial year with the corresponding CCP number. The below table provides the CCP Number that correlates with the specific definition and critical limits that staff seek to manage.

CCP Number	Monitoring Parameter	Target Criterion	Adjustment Limit	Critical Limit
<b>1 - Jugiong</b>	Turbidity (Continuous online) Raw Water	Dependant on raw Water Quality		20% above set point for > 20minutes
<b>2 - Jugiong</b>	Turbidity (Continuous online) Filter Outlet	≤ 0.2 NTU	≥ 0.5 NTU	≥ 1.0 NTU
<b>3 - Jugiong</b>	Free Chlorine residual (Continuous online & alarmed) Finished Water	1.8mg/L	≤ 1.2mg/L or ≥ 2.0mg/L	<b>Summer:</b> ≤ 0.8mg/L for > 30min or ≥ 5.0mg/L <b>Winter:</b> ≤ 0.5mg/L for > 30min or ≥ 5.0mg/L
<b>4 - Jugiong</b>	Fluoride (Daily) Finished Water	1.0mg/L	< 0.95mg/L or > 1.05mg/L	< 0.9mg/L for > 72hrs or > 1.5mg/L
<b>5 - Jugiong</b>	System Integrity (monthly) Reservoir inspection	Secure, no evidence of break in or vermin	Visual identification of breach or vermin access to reservoir	Visual identification of vermin or containment in reservoir
<b>6 - Jugiong</b>	Free chlorine residual (continuous online &	0.8mg/L	≤ 0.5mg/L or ≥ 2.0mg/L	≤ 0.2mg/L or ≥ 5.0mg/L

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	alarmed) Prunevale and Cootamundra			
<b>1 - Oura</b>	Free Chlorine residual (Daily) Treated Water	0.5mg/L	≤ 0.3mg/L or ≥ 1.0mg/L	≤ 0.2mg/L or ≥ 5.0mg/L
<b>2 – Oura</b>	Fluoride (Daily) Treated Water	1.0mg/L	< 0.9mg/L or > 1.2mg/L	< 0.9mg/L for > 72hrs or ≥ 1.5mg/L
<b>3 – Oura</b>	System Integrity (monthly) Reservoir inspection	Secure, no evidence of break in or vermin	Visual identification of breach or vermin access to reservoir	Visual identification of vermin or containment in reservoir
<b>4 - Oura</b>	Chlorine Residual (weekly) Wyalong and Thanowring Rd	0.5mg/L	≤ 0.35mg/L	≤ 0.25mg/L
<b>1 – Mt Arthur</b>	Free Chlorine residual (3 x weekly) Tank 4 Outlet	0.8mg/L	≤ 0.5mg/L or ≥ 2.0mg/L	≤ 0.3mg/L or ≥ 5.0mg/L
<b>2 – Mt Arthur</b>	System Integrity (monthly) Reservoir inspection	Secure, no evidence of break in or vermin	Visual identification of breach or vermin access to reservoir	Visual identification of vermin or containment in reservoir
<b>1 – Mt Daylight</b>	Free Chlorine Residual (continuous Online) Naradhan Reservoir	0.8mg/L	≤ 0.5mg/L or ≥ 2.0mg/L	≤ 0.3mg/L or ≥ 5.0mg/L
<b>2 – Mt Daylight</b>	System Integrity (monthly) Reservoir Inspection	Secure, no evidence of break in or vermin	Visual identification of breach or vermin access to reservoir	Visual identification of vermin or containment in reservoir

The below tables provide the list of exceedances that occurred during the 2019/2020 reporting period. For Jugiong CCP-3 is related maintaining a target level of Chlorine at the plant to ensure disinfection occurs. These breaches were not actual failures of dosing, they were actual failures of the Chlorine analysers that registered incorrect data. CCP-4 for Jugiong is related to Fluoride dosing. We had 3 breaches of this CCP during the 2019/20 period due to equipment failure. In these situations, the Fluoride system is shut off and therefore we record low readings. Receiving a low Fluoride reading is not a significant health related breach or safety concern.

Jugiong	CCP1	CCP2	CCP3	CCP4	CCP5	CCP6
Number of CCP exceedances	0	0	5	3	0	0

For Oura, CCP-2 is related to Fluoride target levels. As per the Jugiong Scheme, all breaches of CCP-2 were related to low readings due to equipment failure.

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Oura	CCP1	CCP2	CCP3	CCP4	CCP5	CCP6
Number of CCP exceedances	0	5	0	0	0	0

**FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Nil.

**TABLED ITEMS:** 2019/20 Drinking Water Management System Review - Final.

**14.3. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY THE ENGINEERING MANAGER**

**14.3.1. UPDATE ON THE INSTALLATION OF BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICES**

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

**20/131 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Sinclair and McCann that the Board note the information provided within the report.

**Report prepared by Engineering Manager**

**COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board note the information provided within the report

**ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

01 Excellence in Service Provision

**BACKGROUND**

At the 2016 August Council Meeting it was resolved to "adopt the Backflow Prevention Policy, and recover annual costs of implementing the policy by increasing usage and access charges". As per the policy, Council has since began installing backflow prevention devices on all of its high risk rural customer connections.

**REPORT**

This report is to update the Board on the progress of the backflow prevention devices installation and ongoing management.

Installations

- A total of 1,347 backflow prevention devices have been installed at a total cost to date of \$1,413,805. This equates to an average cost of \$1,050 per device installed. This includes the device \$270, Large meter cover \$135, pressure reducing valve (where required) \$860 and other items such as raising the assembly or replacing meters as required.
- There are 134 devices remaining to be installed on GWCC customer connections. 42 of these installs are located between Ardlethan and Borellan and are scheduled

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to occur January – February next year. 52 of these installs are located on the Thanowring Road pipeline and will be undertaken as part of the pipeline construction project.

- There are an additional 133 devices to be installed on bulk customer connections. These are located on the trunk main between Rosehill and Young in the Hilltops Council area and are scheduled to be installed this financial year.
- Approximately 40 backflow devices either could not be installed or have been removed due to the existing low pressure conditions being further exacerbated by the devices which remove approximately 5m head pressure.

#### Testing and failures

Goldenfields Water staff have conducted an audit of backflow devices installed within the system to determine a testing regime. The results of the audit indicated that GWCC are experiencing a higher than expected failure rate of the devices. Initial investigation indicates that this is due to a combination of high pressures and pressure fluctuations that occur in our system. Staff are following up with the manufacturers for further information.

Goldenfields Water staff are trialling a different brand of backflow device which is more expensive (\$315 per device) but has a higher pressure rating (which will result in less pressure reducing valves being required) and is made from stainless steel material which is expected to experience significantly less wear.

#### Properties where devices could not be installed

Each property will need to be assessed on a case by case basis for the most appropriate method to implement an appropriate backflow prevention method. The outcomes of this will be workshopped with the Board to determine what a fair and reasonable outcome is for impacted customers whilst Council still meets its regulatory obligations.

#### Increase of usage and access charges

Usage and access charges have not yet been increased to recover the costs of the installation and testing of the backflow prevention devices. It is expected this will occur once all devices have been installed and the testing program has been developed. This will provide improved insight into the actual costs incurred and allow Goldenfields Water to levy the charges accordingly. At this stage all costs have been attributed to the Capital roll out of the devices.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Nil

**TABLED ITEMS:** Nil

### **15. NEXT MEETING**

The next ordinary meeting of Council is scheduled to be held on Thursday 25 February 2021 at 10.00am.

**16. CLOSE OF BUSINESS**

There being no further business requiring the attention of council the meeting was closed at 10.58am.